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Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0196

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN et al.  
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND COMPUTER  
PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR PRODUCT  
TRACKING IN A SUPPLY CHAIN  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK  
Appl. No.: 09/816,567  
Filing Date: 03/22/2001  
Examiner: Elaine L. Gort  
Art Unit: 3627

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 29, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Group II (Claims 7-18), drawn to a system and computer program product for tracking a performance of suppliers for prosecution in the subject application in order to advance the prosecution of this application.

Applicants, of course, reserve the right to file a divisional application covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Receipt of the initial Office Action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 8/27/04

By William T. Ellis

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